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**Marilyn E. Stump**

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Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 11, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to you today to express my support for the settlement that was recently reached between the Department of Justice and Microsoft Corporation. The settlement reached last November should be enacted with great haste. Enacting this settlement will begin the process of economic rebuilding of the technology industry. The settlement, then, is in the best interests of Microsoft, the IT industry, and the economy in general.

The settlement releases contractual restrictions to software developers. Developers that might have been contractually obliged to work with Microsoft only will now be able to work with competitors as well. This guarantees that no third party will be obligated to distribute Windows' technology exclusively or at a fixed percentage.

These stipulations come at a great cost for Microsoft. While I believe antitrust litigation was unnecessary in the first place, I hope that the settlement is enacted quickly. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Marilyn E. Stump*  
Marilyn Stump

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